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HOSPITAL AND TRAINING-SCHOOL ITEMS



HOSPITALS

EARLY in November Robert C. Ogden and Francis B. Reeves, representing the Johnstown Relief Commission of 1889, performed the final official act of the commission in paying over to the Conemaugh Valley Memorial Hospital the sum of three thousand and seventy-five dollars. This is the sixteenth and final payment to that hospital. The last action taken by the commission as a whole was to create annuities of seventy-five dollars, payable annually in November, to each child orphan of the flood until it should attain the age of sixteen years, to erect the hospital, and to pay to it annually the sums held for the benefit of orphans who should die before their sixteenth year. The sum just paid represents the shares of five deceased orphans. Of the whole number (about eighty) three were born to widows after the flood.—*Charities*.

THE Mountainside Hospital, Montclair, N. J. (thirteen miles from New York), has about completed its new building, which will be formally opened early in February. The new building will be used in connection with the present hospital, thus increasing the scope of the work. It is equipped with sixty beds, has surgical, medical, and maternity wards, also many private rooms of various sizes and prices. Its Training-School for Nurses is much enlarged, and the rooms devoted to the nurses more commodious than formerly. The school has a three-years' course, which includes a three-months' training in the "Lying-in Hospital," New York.

A GIFT to the Newton Hospital, Newton Lower Falls, Mass., of an addition to the Nurses' Home by Mr. and Mrs. Frank A. Day in memory of Mrs. Day's father, William P. Ellison, is worthy of note as setting no definite sum to be expended, merely donating the actual cost of the building and its furnishings when completed, so that so far as the building is concerned no added expense is laid upon the hospital.

THE sum of thirty thousand dollars has recently been given by Miss Helen Wells, of Saginaw, Mich., for the purpose of erecting a special tuberculosis building in connection with the well-equipped general hospital already in existence. Pending the erection of this building a part of the sum is available for the salary of a visiting nurse, and other provision for the care of poor consumptives in their homes.

A MOVEMENT is on foot in Massachusetts to ask Congress to establish a Federal hospital for lepers. It is reported that the three lepers that are State charges in Massachusetts are costing that State ten thousand dollars a year. Although the State Board of Charity has made every effort to place them satisfactorily, it has not been successful.

TWO hundred thousand dollars has already been given towards a fund for the erection of a new Toronto General Hospital, but the work will not be commenced until a much larger sum has been subscribed. An entertainment given by the "Elks" realized two thousand dollars, which was added to the fund.

A NEW Nurses' Home is being built in connection with the General Hospital, Woodstock, Canada. It will be formally opened in February, 1905.

A GOVERNMENT military hospital is to be erected in New York City at a cost of forty-five thousand dollars.

TRAINING-SCHOOL NOTES

THE *Journal of the American Medical Association* comments on a proposition that has been made to add a fifth year for preliminary instruction in medical colleges that the student of medicine may be better prepared for medical work. The *Journal* takes the ground that while more extended and thorough preparation for the medical student is necessary, it should be given in a university or institution for general learning. We quote a few lines that apply with equal force to nursing education:

"Medicine is applied science, its study and practice consisting in the application to the investigation and treatment of disease of the principles, facts, and methods of certain fundamental sciences—among them physics, chemistry, and the several biologic branches. Preparation for medicine, as for any other profession, naturally divides itself into a general education, whose chief purpose is the training of the faculties and the mastering of the fundamental subjects, and technical instruction in the application of these fundamental sciences to the specific problems of medicine.

"General education is the province of the institution devoted to that purpose—the secondary schools and the college or university. The medical school should devote itself exclusively to the technical instruction, the applied science, and this it can only do to best advantage when its students have already mastered, in a broad and comprehensive manner, the principles and methods of the sciences to be applied. . . . Many medical students of the present time are unable to speak and write the English language as correctly as is befitting to the members of a learned profession; a majority have not had the training in mathematics which is essential to the thorough and intelligent comprehension of modern physics and chemistry. . . . The time has arrived when every medical college should demand at least one year of college work, in specified, essential branches, as a prerequisite for admission. It will, however, defeat the very purpose which is sought to be accomplished, if, encroaching on the domain of the institution for general learning, the medical college attempts to give instruction in subjects entirely without its province and which it is wholly unfitted to undertake."

THE Rhode Island Hospital at Providence has established a preliminary course. From the superintendent's annual report we quote the following:

"The Nurses' Home, which was built amply large when erected eleven years ago, has not been able for some time to accommodate the nurses on duty, and for some years there has been overcrowding and discomfort. During the past year a frame building to the west of the home has been purchased and connected with it by a covered passageway. This affords some relief; but with our new curriculum for nurses, which provides for a preliminary training, it is necessary to have more nurses on duty, and with this extra number the quarters are again crowded to their limits. It seems imperative that provision be made at once to care properly for these extra nurses, and unless an addition to the home is built it will be necessary either to hire a building in the neighborhood for the

overflow of nurses, or to use one of the wards for a dormitory. This latter alternative is not desirable, as the space is needed for the treatment of patients, and as the nurses who have been on duty in the sickroom all day should get away from the hospital atmosphere with all that that implies, and should have the comforts and conveniences of home-like surroundings instead of being domiciled in barrack-like quarters. The training of young women for nurses is coming down more each year to an educational basis, and as a result a better class of women is being constantly attracted to it; and in order to properly train these pupils we need not only more ample space for housing them, but also better facilities for teaching, such as class-rooms, laboratories, diet kitchens, etc. All of these departments could be placed in a new addition to our present Nurses' Home."

THE Training-School of the Buffalo General Hospital has established a preparatory course of six months, for which an entrance fee of twenty-five dollars is charged, beginning January 1, April 1, July 1, and October 1. The forenoons are devoted to practical work under the supervision of special instructors. For this instruction the class is divided into three sections. The First Division is instructed in the care of rooms, bath-rooms, furniture, linen, glass, china, etc., in the Nurses' Home. The Second Division is instructed in the preparation of diets for the sick in the diet kitchen of the hospital. The Third Division is instructed in the simpler ward duties, special emphasis being placed on the proper care of hospital utensils and supplies, in other words, *hospital house-keeping*. In the afternoon the three divisions combine to receive instruction in classes and lectures. The course includes anatomy and physiology, hygiene, chemistry, materia medica, bacteriology, dietetics, elementary nursing, and ethics.

SUBSEQUENT COURSES (SECOND HALF OF PROBATIONARY YEAR AND JUNIOR YEAR).

During this period the pupils receive a thorough course of instruction in the practical work of the various wards and operating-rooms of the hospital, including the men's and women's medical and surgical, the children's ward, and the contagious cottage.

Senior Year.—The practical work of this year includes obstetrics, care of private patients, further experience in the various operating-rooms, special nursing of private patients, and opportunity for gaining administrative experience in some of the large wards of the hospital.

THE McLean Hospital for the Insane at Waverly, Mass., has increased the period of training for women nurses from two to two and one-half years. The nurses are to be given more instruction and time for study. The first six months is to be practically a preliminary course, not more than two hours a day being spent in the wards. Instruction will be given in anatomy, physiology, hygiene, bacteriology, urinalysis, hydrotherapy, electrotherapy, massage, physical exercise, the dispensing of drugs, housekeeping, cookery, general nursing, and the nursing of cases of nervous and mental disease. Instruction will be given by means of text-books, lectures, and, where practicable, by demonstrations and actual work in the dispensary and the laboratories, as well as in the wards of the hospital. The change will necessitate the employment of more nurses and will be an additional expense to the hospital, notwithstanding a reduction of five dollars in the monthly pay.

THE graduating exercises of the Class of 1904 from the Laconia (N. H.) Hospital Training-School for Nurses took place in Smith Hall on Friday evening, De-

ember 30. After an invocation by the Rev. R. L. Swain, Mayor Woodbury L. Melcher, president of the Hospital Association, reviewed the work of the hospital from its establishment in 1898 to the present time. Dr. G. P. Conn, of Concord, gave an interesting address on hospital work in general, and was followed by Colonel S. S. Jewett, who expressed his appreciation of the work of the hospital. Dr. A. Haven Harriman addressed the graduates in well-chosen words, giving much valuable advice, and in conclusion presented diplomas to Ethel Olive Broadie, Fredericksburg, Ia.; Margaret M. Sullivan, South Berwick, Me., and Grace Marie Renwick, Eliot, Me. Vocal selections were rendered during the evening by the Oberon Ladies' Quartette. An informal reception, when light refreshments were served by the undergraduates, brought to a close the first public exercises of the kind in the history of the hospital.

THE seventh annual commencement exercises of the Colorado Training-School for Nurses in connection with the City and County Hospitals of Denver, Colo., were held at this hospital January 12, 1905. The opening address was made by Dr. C. S. Elder. Diplomas were presented by Mayor Speer to the following young ladies: Ida Mercer, Chariton, Ia.; Elizabeth Belcher, Randolph, Utah; Vida Matthews, Roseburg, Ore.; Cynthia Dozier, Denver, Colo.; Edna McHenry, Denver, Colo.; Minnie McCrosson, Victoria, Ill.; Kathryn Wilkin, Hutchinson, Kan.; Marie Farner, Zurich, Switzerland; Virginia Bainard, Mt. Carroll, Ill.; Jessie Leckliter, Quincy, Ia.; Flora Shields Plumley, Boston, Mass.; Edith Orman, Denver, Colo.; Clara Stueven, Chicago, Ill.; Margaret Wheatley, Aspen, Colo.; Carrie Richardson, Georgetown, Colo.; Belle Crockfort, Oconto, Wis.; Margaret Fitzgerald, Boston, Mass.; Cornelia Trafford, Richlevel, Mich.; Christine Hammond, Springfield, Ill.

PERSONAL

MISS AUGUSTA C. ROBERTSON, graduate of the Boston and Massachusetts Hospital Training-School and for several years superintendent of the Training-School for Nurses at Tewksbury, Mass., has resigned to accept the position of superintendent of the Elliot Hospital, Manchester, N. H. Miss Rachael Bourke, formerly of Cooper Hospital, Camden, N. J., will succeed her at Tewksbury.

MRS. HUNTER ROBB, who has been spending a few days visiting at the Johns Hopkins Training-School, gave a delightful informal talk to the graduating class on "Nursing in the Early Days at Bellevue Hospital." A very large number of head nurses and pupils from other classes were present.

MISS ELIZABETH CAMPBELL GORDON succeeds Miss Flaws as superintendent of the Kingston Hospital, Canada. Miss Gordon is a Toronto General graduate, and for five years had charge of the Emergency Branch of the Toronto General Hospital.

MISS KATE GURNEY, graduate of the Orange Training-School, is successfully engaged in chicken farming in California, and Mrs. Sarah A. Vernol-Simonson, of the same school, has taken a fruit farm in the same State.

MISS ROBINA STEWART, recently head nurse of the private wards, Johns Hopkins Hospital, has gone to the Knowlton Hospital, Milwaukee, to take charge of the Training-School.

MISS ANTOINE KNAPP, Class of 1896 of the Orange Memorial Training-School, has returned to her home in Germany owing to the illness and subsequent death of a sister.

MISS CLARA GREEN, who graduated from Toronto General Hospital in 1891, has accepted the position of superintendent of the General Hospital, Belleville, Ont.

MISS EVELYN DICKENS (Toronto General, 1903) has resigned her position as night supervisor to take a position in the office of Dr. Herbert Bruce.

MISS MARY E. STUART, graduate of the Orange Memorial Hospital, has regained her health after a serious surgical operation.

MISS CHRISTINA HALL (Toronto General), superintendent of the Jamestown Hospital, N. Y., is spending three months in Europe.

MISS MARY GRAHAM, Orange Memorial Training-School, has recovered from a tedious illness and is again to take up work.

MISS ISABEL TURNER, superintendent of nurses, City Hospital, Vancouver, B. C., has resigned her position.

MISS JEANNETTE NELSON entered upon her duties as night supervisor in the Toronto General on January 1.

MISS H. ALICE TURBINE has resigned the position of matron of the Beverly Hospital, Mass.

ALICE M. STEEVES, D.D.S., has moved her office to 355 Boylston Street, Boston, Mass.

MISS HARRIET STAPLES, of the Orange Training-School, is again doing settlement work.

MISS JULIA STEWART (Toronto General) will spend the winter in the south of France.



THE DANGER OF INFECTION TO THE ATTENDANTS OF TUBERCULOUS PATIENTS. —The *Medical Record* gives the following synopsis of a very reassuring article in the *Boston Medical and Surgical Journal*: "Louis Faugeres Bishop declares that the idea that tuberculosis is of necessity contagious is not strictly true. We all take in germs of tuberculosis from time to time. There will be fewer tubercle bacilli found in the tuberculous ward of a hospital than in the air of a dusty street, for in a crowded street all conditions are favorable. We do not get tuberculosis because we enjoy a natural immunity against it. The tubercle bacilli may be introduced into the human body, but there will, ordinarily, be no ill effect. The one exception is in the case of a very severe infection if the person is inoculated with the germs of tuberculosis repeatedly, and the natural immunity temporarily broken down; but even then if the individual is not susceptible he will throw it off. Many people are afflicted with this disease for a little while, but the condition is not recognized, and the lesions heal and the patient recovers. The writer hardly considers it fair to put tuberculosis in the same category with other contagious diseases, because it is only contagious in the sense that it may be transmitted from one to another, but is not contagious in the sense that the average person is liable to catch it. As far as danger in taking care of tuberculous patients is concerned, it is practically nil.